

REMARKS

Newly drafted claims 20-27 remain herein. Claims 1, 5, 7-1 and 16-18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. New claims 20-27 are based on applicants' Figs. 5-7. Each of new claims 20 and 24 recite a valve device comprising a channel wall with a hole and a biasing means. While the Office Action alleged that paragraph [313] of Valencia '713 describes a valve in the channel, the valve described in Valencia fails to include the valve structures of claims 20 and 24. Thus, claims 20-27 are patentable.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 20-27 are now fully in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP



Roger W. Parkhurst
Reg. No. 25,177
Daniel W. Shim
Reg. No. 56,995

Date: April 25, 2008

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202-429-3000
Fax: 202-429-3902

Attorney Docket No. 28951.5330